

machine gun and rifle fire, consolidated his position, and repulsed frequent counter-attacks. On one occasion he personally led bombers to repulse an attack on his flank.

Lt. Herbert Norris, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. The officers of the battalion having become casualties, he took command of the whole, and under very heavy fire organised and consolidated the position. He displayed high qualities of initiative and command.

Lt. Charles Edward Reynolds, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He led his company with the greatest courage and initiative. Later, he led a small party against the enemy, himself shooting two enemy officers, and thereby enabling his company to advance. He set a splendid example of bravery and devotion to duty.

Lt. John James Richardson, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. When his senior officers had become casualties, he led his men with great courage and determination to the final objective, and consolidated the position. Later, he captured many prisoners.

Maj. Charles James Townsend Stewart, P.P.C.L.I.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He led an attack which captured two enemy trenches, and showed great determination, both in the attack and in the consolidation of the position won.

Maj. Roscoe Vanderwater, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He commanded the attacking party with great determination, and held and consolidated the captured trench. He personally supervised the digging of the new communication trenches. On other occasions he has done fine work.

NEW ZEALAND FORCE.

Capt. Fred Starnes, Canterbury Regt.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. When, after heavy fighting, our men were exhausted, and being attacked in front and on both flanks, he rallied them and personally led a third and final attack with such determination that the enemy were swept back up their own communication trenches. Next day he beat off a strong counter-attack, with heavy loss.

SOUTH AFRICAN FORCE.

Lt.-Col. Newdigate Halford Marriott Burne, Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry and ability in action. During the enemy's attack, which lasted eight hours, he selected his positions with great skill, inspired his officers and men by his fine example, and beat off the enemy with heavy loss.

The undermentioned have been awarded a Bar to their Distinguished Service Order for subsequent acts of conspicuous gallantry:—

Maj. (temp. Lt.-Col.) Walter Allason, D.S.O., Beif. E.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He executed an attack with the greatest initiative and resource, thereby enabling a strong enemy position to be captured. He handled his battalion with great skill throughout the operations.

(The Distinguished Service Order was awarded in London Gazette dated 18th Feb. 1915.)

Capt. (temp. Maj.) Allan Grant Birch, D.S.O., R.I.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. With a small party he pushed forward on reconnaissance work under very heavy fire. The information gained was of great value. He was severely wounded.

(The Distinguished Service Order was awarded in London Gazette dated 14th Jan. 1916.)

Temp. Lt.-Col. Cyril Aubrey Blacklock, D.S.O., K. R. Rif. C.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. When in command of the left attack of the brigade, considerable bodies of the enemy emerged from underground defences in rear of the brigade. He at once detached parties to deal with the situation, thereby enabling the attack to be successfully carried out. Later he captured and consolidated five consecutive objectives, displaying the greatest courage and initiative.

(The Distinguished Service Order was awarded in London Gazette dated 3rd June, 1916.)

Temp. Capt. Hugh Llewellyn Glyn Hughes, D.S.O., R.A.M.C.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations. On four separate days he showed an utter contempt for danger when collecting and tending the wounded under heavy shell-fire.

(The Distinguished Service Order was awarded in London Gazette dated 25th Aug. 1916.)

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to confer the Military Cross on the undermentioned Officers and Warrant Officers in recognition of their gallantry and devotion to duty in the Field:—

2nd Lt. Ernest Henry Fortescue Abbott, Notts. & Derby. R., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He repulsed persistent enemy bombing attacks practically single-handed, thereby saving a critical situation. He displayed great courage and initiative throughout.

2nd Lt. Bernard Ernest Ablitt, W. York. R.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He organised a party to shoot down a party of the enemy, who were firing into the backs of our advance. He also sent in valuable reports of the situation. Later he assumed command of the right flank, displaying great courage and ability.